



Proclamation *Presented*

In Recognition of Fibromyalgia Week

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a chronic medical disorder characterized by long-term, body-wide pain originating from an individual's tender points, the soft tissue on the back of the neck, shoulders, sternum, lower back, hips, and elbows; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia presents symptoms including tingling of the skin, prolonged muscle spasms, weakness in the limbs, nerve pain, muscle twitching and chronic sleep disturbances; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia affects approximately five million Americans with females having an incidence ratio over males by 9 to 1; the disorder is most common among women aged 20 to 50 years old; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is often misdiagnosed by doctors because there are no scientific measures including X-rays or lab tests that can identify this disorder; on the average, it often takes around five years for patients to receive an accurate diagnosis for the chronic pain disorder; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia has no known cure; various treatments have been demonstrated by controlled clinical trials to be effective in reducing symptoms including medications, behavioral interventions, patient education and exercise; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia awareness and expanded knowledge of the realities of living with this disease needs to be raised to allow communities at large to better support patients and their families, friends, co-workers and employers;

THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the week of May 15-21, 2011 as

"FIBROMYALGIA WEEK"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to become educated about the symptoms and preventative methods concerning Fibromyalgia.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this thirteenth day of May, 2011.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i